26th February 1934]

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Education

Applications from Viswa-Brahmans for the award of foreign scholarships.

708 *Q.*—Rao Sahib Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any student of either sex of the Viswa-Brahmana community in this Province applied for any foreign scholarship since 1931; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have granted the same?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No application for a scholarship tenable outside India by a member of the Vishwa-Brahmana community was received by Government during the period in question nor was any such scholarship granted.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR 1934-35.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The general discussion of the Budget will now continue."

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Mr. President, Sir, in the course of the last two days' discussions, some hon. Members have deemed it to be a matter for gratification and congratulation that even in these days of acute distress and when for the past few years the whole world has been subject to a financial depression of an unprecedented character and extent, we should have been able to balance our Budget. It seems to me, Sir, that the surplus and more particularly the manner in which that surplus has been arrived at is the sorriest part of the whole affair. The surplus, if I may say so with due respect, has been arrived at in utter disregard of the realities of the situation, and the manner in which that surplus has been reached betokens a complete and regrettable lack of imagination on the part of the authorities responsible. A surplus, Sir, betokens prosperity, prosperity of some sort at least. It seems to me, Sir, that a Government which tries to create for itself a prosperous situation when the people, on whom it has got to depend for its taxes are undergoing an acute distress, can have very little sympathy for the people whose welfare it is supposed to look after. The Government may perhaps congratulate themselves and feel happy over the fact that having met their needs, they will have at the end of the year some margin to console them. But I should like only to remind the Government that that happiness is achieved over the misery of the people. We have been begging and praying for the past two years and more particularly during the last few months for some consideration, for some sympathy. This question of land revenue is a matter in which the Government have taken to themselves powers in two directions—powers on the executive side and powers on the judicial side. We have